



September - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tanya Chaudhary won gold at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi, with a 68.35-metre throw, setting a new Indian national record in women's hammer throw at the Indian Athletics Series Final.
- ❖ Buellia maharajensis, a new rock-growing (saxicolous) lichen species, was discovered at about 1,351 metres elevation in Mathikettan Shola National Park, Idukki, Kerala.
 - The species was named in honour of Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, marking its 150th anniversary.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted Russian President Vladimir Putin a Russian translation of Thirukkural during their bilateral meeting in New Delhi, ahead of the 18th BRICS Summit.
- ❖ The first road bridge connecting Russia and North Korea has opened across the Tumen River, linking the border cities of Khasan (Russia) and Rason (North Korea).
- ❖ The 22nd edition of Yudh Abhyas, the annual India-US bilateral Army exercise, is being conducted in a two-theatre format at Bikaner, Rajasthan and Auli, Uttarakhand.
- ❖ INS Mysore arrived at Lumut, Malaysia, to participate in the 4th edition of Exercise Samudra Laksamana, a bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN).

NATIONAL NEWS

AASHVAST Lab for Drone Security

- ❖ The Indian Army set up AASHVAST at DG EME headquarters, New Delhi, to detect software threats and security vulnerabilities in military drones.
- ❖ AASHVAST stands for Assessment and Analysis of Electronic Systems Hardware for Vulnerabilities and Security Threats.
- ❖ It is an air-gapped, offline laboratory that checks drone firmware for backdoors, unauthorised components and hidden access tools.
- ❖ It can test drone responses to GPS spoofing and jamming, which are electronic warfare techniques.



India's Nuclear Arsenal

- The Federation of American Scientists (FAS) estimates India may have produced around 190 nuclear warheads.
- More than 160 warheads are estimated to be associated with operational launchers.
- Around 30 additional warheads are linked to new missiles currently under production.

- ❖ A 2026 report by the Federation of American Scientists (FAS) estimates that India may have around 190 nuclear warheads.
- ❖ India is estimated to have over 160 warheads for operational launchers, plus about 30 additional warheads for new missiles under production.
- ❖ FAS estimates India may have produced enough military-grade plutonium for 140–225 nuclear warheads.

- ❖ As of early 2026, India was estimated to possess about 730 kg of weapon-grade plutonium.
- ❖ India follows Credible Minimum Deterrence and a No First Use (NFU) policy for nuclear weapons.

Indigenous Disaster Warning System

- ❖ The Ministry of Communications launched India's indigenous Cell Broadcast System (CBS) through its first large-scale nationwide demonstration.
- ❖ CBS sends geo-targeted emergency alerts to millions of mobile phones at the same time, without needing phone numbers, internet, apps or registration.
- ❖ It is integrated with SACHET (National Disaster Alert Platform) and can provide warnings for floods, tsunamis, gas leaks and other emergencies.
- ❖ CBS was developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- ❖ India joins 30+ countries using CBS, including Japan's J-Alert and the United States' Wireless Emergency Alerts.

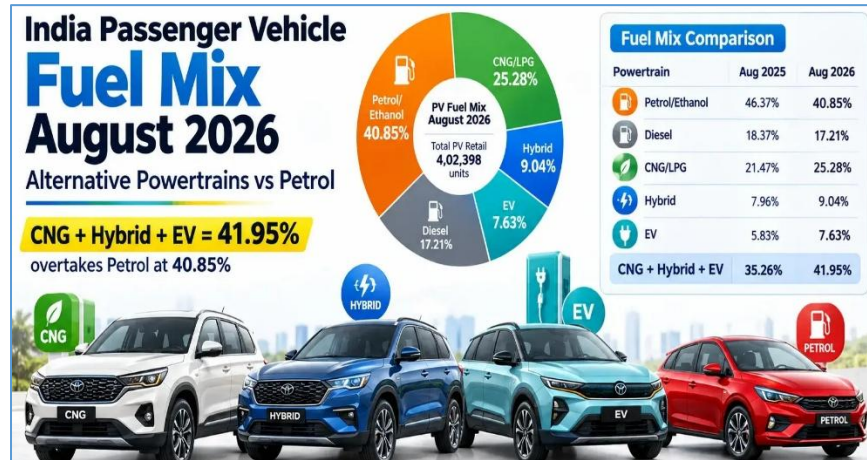


Pan-India Testing of Indigenous Cell Broadcast System Begins for Faster Disaster Alerts

Alternative Fuel Vehicles in India

- ❖ For the first time, alternative-fuel passenger vehicles (CNG, LPG, hybrid and electric vehicles) together overtook petrol vehicles in India's retail passenger vehicle market in August 2026.

- ❖ Alternative-fuel vehicles captured 41.95% of passenger vehicle sales, compared with 40.85% for petrol vehicles.
- ❖ The combined share of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana and Karnataka fell from 59.9% in August 2025 to 53.7% in August 2026.
- ❖ The share of the rest of India increased from 40.1% to 46.3% during the same period.



Coal Sector CSR Framework



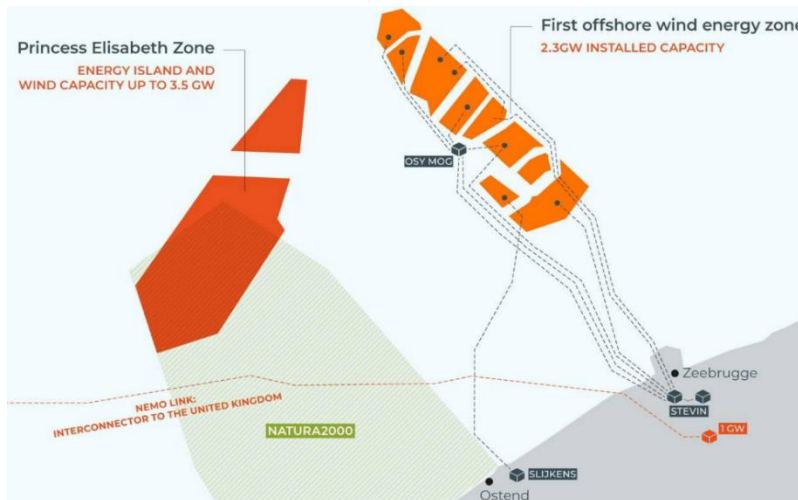
- ❖ The Ministry of Coal and Coal India Limited (CIL) launched India's first sector-wide Comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Framework for coal companies in New Delhi.
- ❖ The framework is the first sector-specific CSR guideline in India after the statutory CSR rules under the Companies Act, 2013.
- ❖ It was drafted by the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) to make CSR activities in coal-mining regions transparent, measurable and outcome-oriented.

- ❖ Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides the legal basis for CSR provisions in India.
- ❖ Under Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana, CIL has completed 1,050+ bone marrow transplants for children, providing up to ₹10 lakh per patient through 21 empanelled hospitals.
- ❖ CIL's Nanha Sa Dil initiative has screened 2 lakh+ children and performed 1,500+ free corrective cardiac surgeries since March 2024.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World's First Energy Island

- ❖ Belgium is building the world's first artificial energy island in the North Sea, about 45 km off the Belgian coast, to support offshore wind power.
- ❖ The Princess Elisabeth Island will serve as an energy hub for the Princess Elisabeth Zone, planned to have 3.5 GW of offshore wind capacity.
- ❖ It will collect electricity from offshore wind turbines and transmit it to mainland Belgium through undersea cables.
- ❖ The island will also host interconnectors with the United Kingdom and Denmark, linking the North Sea's offshore wind farms.
- ❖ Construction is scheduled to begin in 2027, with full operation expected by 2030.



Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS)

- ❖ 128 countries reached a consensus in Geneva on a text defining Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) under the UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).

- ❖ LAWS are autonomous military systems that can detect, select and engage targets using pre-programmed parameters without meaningful human intervention for each attack.
- ❖ The consensus text is non-binding and may support future international regulations or a treaty on autonomous weapons.
- ❖ The United States, Russia, India and Israel oppose restrictive legally binding treaties and favour non-binding approaches or existing laws of armed conflict.
- ❖ Brazil, Ireland and Norway are among countries supporting a legally binding instrument to restrict autonomous targeting.
- ❖ CCW was adopted in Geneva in 1980 and entered into force in 1983; India is a State Party and participates in the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) discussions on LAWS.



ECONOMY NEWS

Coastal Local Area Bank - Scheduled Bank Status

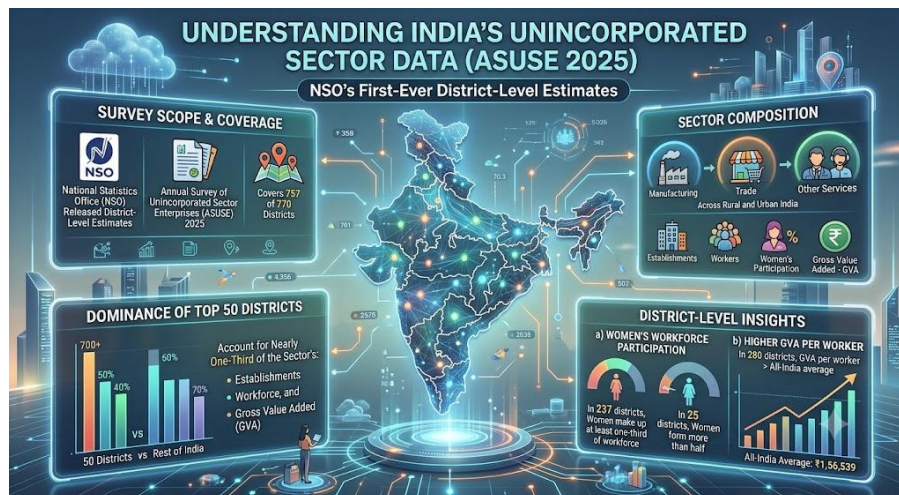
- ❖ Coastal Local Area Bank Limited was included in the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, and received Scheduled Bank status through an RBI notification.
- ❖ The bank is headquartered in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, and has been operating for 26 years.

- ❖ It currently operates 57 branches across 12 districts.
- ❖ It recently received RBI approval to expand to Vizianagaram and Prakasam in Andhra Pradesh, and Khammam in Telangana, with 13 additional branches.
- ❖ Scheduled Bank status will enable it to target new customers and institutional depositors and increase Current Account and Savings Account (CASA) deposits.



REPORTS AND INDICES

India's Unincorporated Sector Data

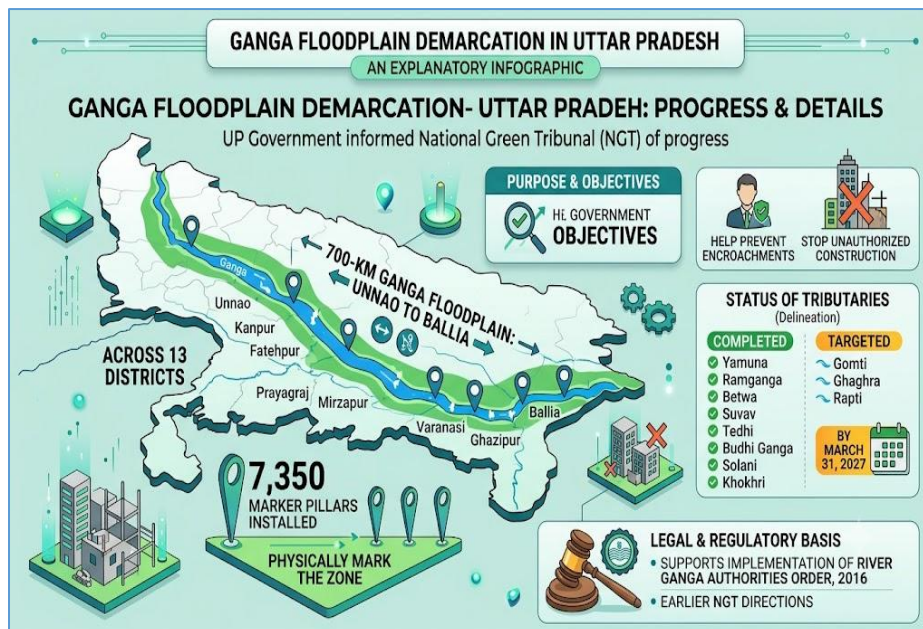


- ❖ The National Statistics Office (NSO) released India's first-ever district-level estimates for the unincorporated non-agricultural sector using Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) 2025.

- ❖ The estimates cover 757 of 770 districts and include data on establishments, workers, women's participation and Gross Value Added (GVA).
- ❖ The top 50 districts account for nearly one-third of the sector's establishments, workforce and GVA.
- ❖ In 237 districts, women make up at least one-third of the workforce, while in 25 districts they form more than half.
- ❖ In 280 districts, GVA per worker is higher than the all-India average of ₹1,56,539.
- ❖ The survey covers Manufacturing, Trade and Other Services across rural and urban India.

STATE NEWS

Ganga Floodplain Demarcation – Uttar Pradesh



- ❖ Uttar Pradesh informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that physical demarcation of the 700-km Ganga floodplain from Unnao to Ballia has been completed across 13 districts.
- ❖ A total of 7,350 pillars were installed to mark the floodplain zone and help prevent encroachments and unauthorised construction.
- ❖ Floodplain delineation has also been completed for tributaries including the Yamuna, Ramganga, Betwa, Suvav, Tedhi, Budhi Ganga, Solani and Khokhri.
- ❖ Delineation of the Gomti, Ghaghra and Rapti rivers is targeted for completion by March 31, 2027.

- ❖ The work supports implementation of the River Ganga Authorities Order, 2016 and earlier NGT directions.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Forest Martyrs Day 2026 - September 11

- ❖ The day aims to honour forest personnel who lost their lives protecting forests and wildlife.
- ❖ The day commemorates the 1730 Khejarli sacrifice in Rajasthan, where the Bishnoi community resisted the felling of Khejri trees.
- ❖ The movement was led by Amrita Devi Bishnoi, and more than 360 people died during the sacrifice.
- ❖ The Khejarli incident is associated with community-based conservation and protection of nature.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Remembering Martyrs, Protecting Forests.”



Digvijay Diwas 2026 - September 11

- ❖ The day commemorate Swami Vivekananda's historic address at the World's Parliament of Religions, Chicago, in 1893.

- ❖ Swami Vivekananda, born Narendranath Datta, was born on 12 January 1863 in Kolkata.
- ❖ He was a chief disciple of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and became a leading exponent of Vedanta and Yoga.
- ❖ He addressed the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago on September 11, 1893, representing Hinduism.
- ❖ His opening words, "Sisters and Brothers of America," became associated with his historic Chicago address.
- ❖ His Chicago speeches highlighted religious tolerance, universal acceptance, harmony and peaceful coexistence.
- ❖ He founded the Ramakrishna Mission in 1897, based on the ideals of spiritual development and service to humanity.
- ❖ His birthday, 12 January, is observed in India as National Youth Day.
- ❖ He passed away on 4 July 1902 at the age of 39.

Digvijay Diwas

Remembering **Swami Vivekananda's** historic address at the **World's Parliament of Religions** in Chicago in 1893, where he introduced India's spiritual heritage and timeless message of harmony, tolerance and universal brotherhood to the world.

11 September 1893

*A historic moment that
continues to inspire generations*

